



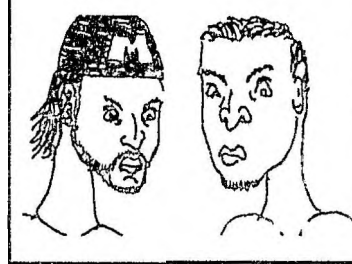
**To build a
boat...**

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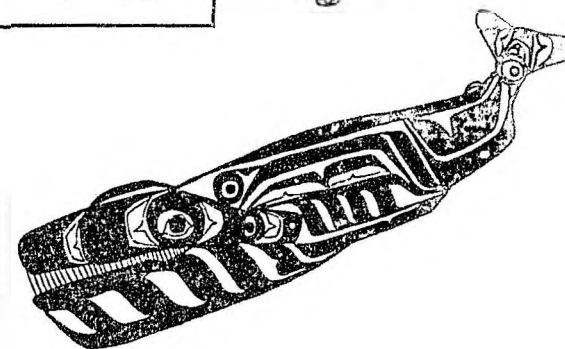
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Whalesong



Volume 18, Issue 10

University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau Campus

March 14, 1997

Meal plan prices may decrease

**Proposal offers \$58 savings,
more "flexibility and choice"**

By Wayne Saucier
Whalesong Reporter

Meal plan costs for students in the residence hall may be lower next semester, according to a proposal formulated by Student Activities and Housing Director Tish Griffin. The proposal will be reviewed by Director of Student Services Bruce Gifford and Chancellor Marshall Lind sometime this week.

Under the new proposal, the meal plan will cost \$1,190 per semester, down from \$1,248 this semester, and will be based on a debit card system that will allow students to pay for ex-

actly what they eat. All UAS students will be able to purchase a debit card, and purchases over \$100 will be subsidized by a 5 percent increase in value. Therefore, an \$1,190 meal plan purchase will be worth \$1,249.50.

"I think it gives students so much more flexibility and choice," said Griffin of the proposal. "I think the satisfaction of the students will be increased."

Director Gifford plans to review the proposal with Budget/Fund Accounting Manager Rick Bundy, to see if the plan is economically feasible with the \$1,190 figure Griffin proposed.

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Student policies being rewritten

**Board of Regents' task force
examines UA regulations**

By Wayne Saucier
Whalesong reporter

Policies and regulations governing all student/university interactions are currently being rewritten by a task force appointed by the UA Board of Regents.

Topics that will be covered by the task force include student grievances, student rights and responsibilities, student employment, academic appeals, health services, sexual harassment, and others. A total of 44 topics will be addressed by the committee.

"[The policies] will be our

roadmap in how we're supposed to act in regard to students, and how they're supposed to act in regard to us," said UAS Director of Student Services Bruce Gifford, one of the team members. Other team members include Carla Kirts, Dean of Student Services at UAF, Linda Berg Smith, acting Vice Chancellor for Student Services at UAA, Mark Neumayr, Associate General Counsel, and Nanne Myers, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The group was tasked with rewriting

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Odd bird

**A look at the colorful life of Scott
Foster, UAS information officer**

Page 7

Mourant arcades: entertainment or annoyance?

Student Government-installed video games prompt complaints

By Paul Converse
Whalesong Reporter

On an average weekday afternoon at UAS, the Mourant Student Lounge is a scene of bodies in repose: sleepers sprawled haphazardly across the couches, readers curled into comfortable chairs, day-dreamers gazing out the picture-windows which frame Auke Lake and the surrounding mountainscape. Recently, though, the room has been pervaded by discordant noises: grunts and thumps, concussive explosions, the roar of a capacity

crowd. Alone in the corner two video arcade games, recently added to the room at the request of student government, cycle through their noisy soundtracks, 24 hours-a-day.

"What a disruptive contrast," said UAS student David Newman, who had come to the room in search of a resting spot. "I was looking forward to the peaceful atmosphere of the room, but now it's loud and annoying." Glaring at the video games Newman stated, "It has its place, but this is not it."

The UAS Student Government sees the situation differently. "We would like more games in there, actually," said Shawn Paul, student body president. He explained that the room was originally intended to be a television lounge and game room. The video games were supposed to be in place before the semester began, but did not arrive until mid-February (a television is also in the room, but was broken for most of this semester).

Student Government installed the games in the hope that they will earn

money. "We're trying to find other ways to raise money [instead of raising student fees]," Shawn Paul said. Student Government has an agreement with Hurricane Vending which calls for up to six video games to be installed; in return for providing space for Hurricane's games, Student Government will receive a percentage of the profits.

Students wandering down to the room earlier this semester found a place that was comfortable and quiet, where they could study, sleep, look at

the scenery and relax in peace. Mary Hagen, a UAS student who was studying on one of the couches when interviewed, said that she comes to the room "for all kinds of different reasons." The view of Auke Lake and the comfortable couches produce an atmosphere that is "meditative and soft," she said.

Tish Griffin, director of Student Activities, admits that the activities room "got established as a quiet area by the users" early in the semester. She re-

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Arcades...

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ferred to this slow beginning as "an unfortunate start," and said that the room was not intended to be used for sleeping or studying. "They can do that at the Egan Library," Griffin said.

When the games were finally installed, the room lost its peaceful quietness. The games produce noise continuously—whether anyone is playing them or not—and it wasn't long before the Whalesong began receiving complaints. Shawn Paul, however, believes that the majority of students don't have a problem with the games. Student Government, he said, has only received one written complaint.

When the three students using the room on a recent afternoon were interviewed, however, all of them said they were bothered by the games. Laura Apelt described the games as "annoying and distracting," David Newman found them to be "loud and anti-educational," and Mary Hagen said that her first reaction was "They need to get the games out of here. They don't match the environment here," she added. "I don't think we need them on campus."

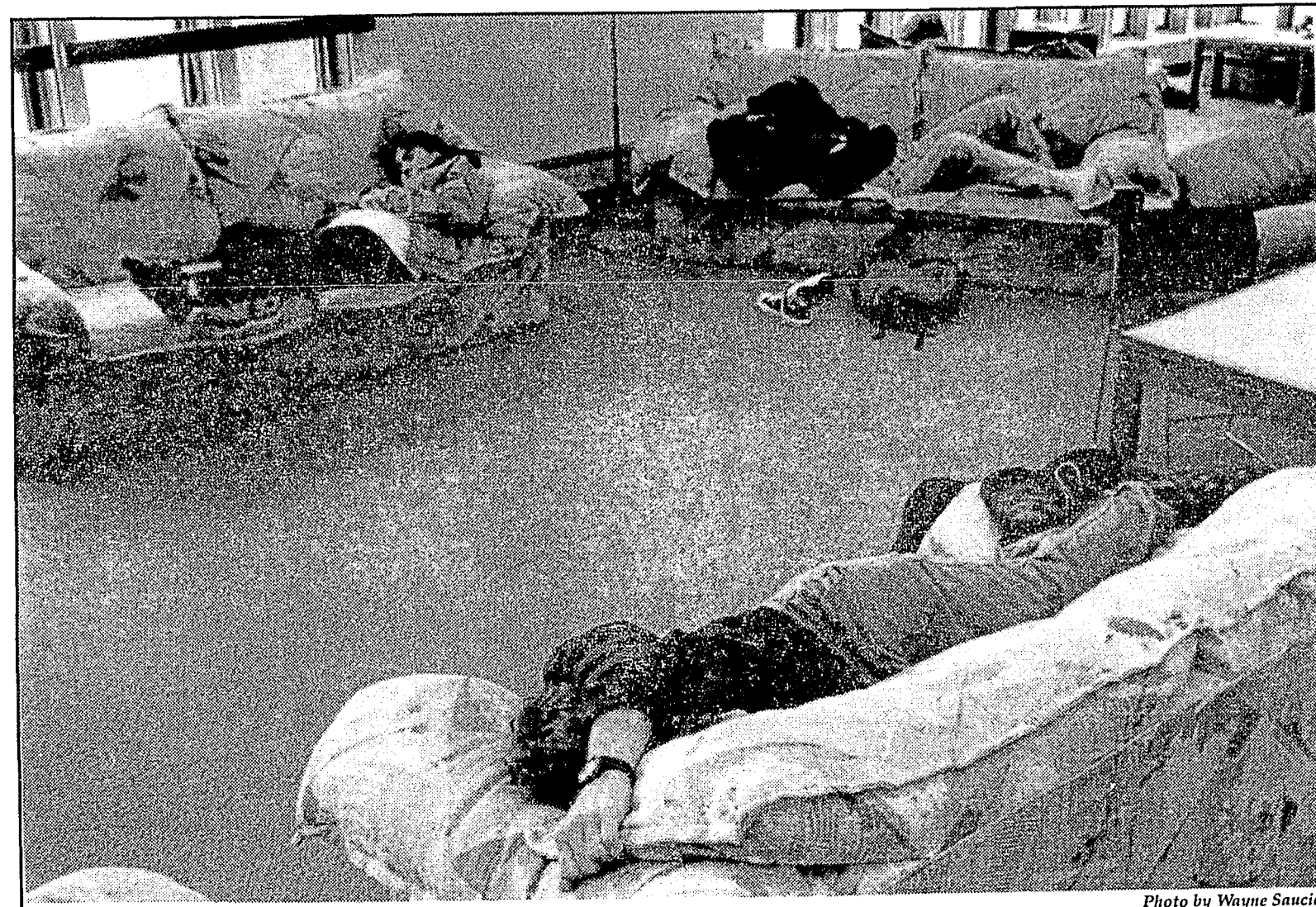
Shawn Paul, however, disagrees. "I think that your educational experience goes way beyond what you read on the chalkboard," he said, "and one little tiny part of it is entertainment."

Shawn Paul said he believes having a place for people "to blow off stress and play a video game" contributes to the college environment. He said that over the last couple of years several students asked if video games could be installed, and notes that UAS was the only college campus he had ever been on that didn't have video games.

Students have asked if the volume of the games can be turned down, but John Armstrong, president of Hurricane Vending, said that he thinks "it's as low as you can go." Shawn Paul pointed out that the games are located in a corner of the room that is partially blocked off from the main seating area. "It depends where you sit," he admitted, but overall he believes the sound level in the room is too low to be annoying. And, he adds, the sound is a necessary part of the games. "It reminds you to play," he explained.

Paul believes that most of the people complaining about the noise of the video arcades are using the room as a sleeping area, and is disappointed that students can often be found asleep on the couches. "The bottom line is that room is not a bedroom," he said. "It's not a quiet area." He believes that other areas on campus, such as the library, are more suitable for quiet activities.

When asked what she thought of students napping on the ac-



UAS students relax in the Mourant lounge on a recent afternoon. Some students have complained that the two arcade games, recently installed by student government, disrupt the room's peaceful atmosphere.

tivity room couches, Mary Hagen said "I think that that's a good thing." She feels that napping can be beneficial to a tired student, and notes that the activity room offers the most comfortable place to sit—or nap—on campus.

Paul notes that students have been unplugging the games regularly and is concerned that this will cause problems. "That's dangerous," he said. John Armstrong, of Hurricane Vending, said that unplugging the machines before turning off the internal switch "will blow the main CPU." Each CPU, he said, is valued at \$2,500. He added that if a game is damaged Hurricane Vending will remove the games. According to Shawn Paul, if a student is witnessed damaging a game the student might be sued.

Student Government and Hurricane Vending are both hoping that more students will use the games as awareness of the games increases. So far, they've cost more in electricity than they've paid, said John Armstrong.

Shawn Paul said if students have concerns about the games they should let Student Government know. Students can speak with the Student Government employee (at the desk across from the bookstore), simply leave a note, or write a letter. Written correspondence will be read into the minutes at Student Government meetings.

Policies...

continued from page 1

The group was tasked with rewriting the policies a year and a half ago, as the current policies were becoming old and out of date. "Some were written in the late 70's and early 80's," said Gifford. "They weren't really relevant anymore."

Times have changed since then, said Myers. "There have been a lot of changes nationwide in federal regulations that pertain to how universities relate to students," she said.

Another issue was consistency. While indi-

vidual UA campuses have policies that address most of these topics, the Board felt it important that they be presented as Board level policies, in order to unite the campuses, said Kirts. "By having Board level policies, the various campuses will be more similar than dissimilar in how we address student service issues, problems, challenges, etc.," she said.

The team introduced the drafts of the first two chapters to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee at the February Board meeting. The group decided to begin with those two, entitled

General Provisions and Student Dispute Resolution, because they felt they were the most urgent concerns. That's something that we've been hearing is a priority from students," said Gifford. "We tried to find the issues with the most immediate impact to them."

The General Provisions chapter outlines student/university expectations and obligations. According to Gifford, it will serve as a "contractual relationship between students and the university." The chapter lists what the student can expect from the university, and vice versa, under the topics of teaching and learning, curriculum, student support services, and campus environment. It also sets forth the responsibility, scope, and organization of student services, as well as a few other student/university relationship policies.

"[The General Provisions chapter] tries to capture the mutual relationship between the university and the student," said Kirts.

The Student Dispute Resolution chapter guarantees that the university will "provide fair, consistent, and expeditious procedures for students to contest actions or decisions which adversely affect them," and gives general procedures for dispute resolution.

The presentation made to the Board Academic and Student Affairs Committee at the February meeting was a first reading. The team met again early this week to work on the changes suggested by the Committee. The administration will incorporate recommendations from appropriate governance groups, including faculty and student groups, into drafts for second reading by the Committee, which will then forward the drafts to the Full Board for consideration.

Gifford expressed an interest in making sure that students are fairly represented. "We cer-



Photo by Wayne Saucier
Director of Student Services Bruce Gifford:
"The policies will be our roadmap..."

tains are going forward as student advocates, but we represent both sides by nature of our job," he said. "There are some critical things that students need to have impact on."

USUAS-IC Student Body President Shawn Paul agreed. "I hope we'll continue to be an integral part of creating the system-wide policies," he said. "[The team] has a particular job to do, and while they, with all their good conscience, will look at protecting students, one of their primary goals also is to protect the university."

Paul said the student government will become involved in the process later this semester, and will make every attempt to elicit input from students before making a formal recommendation.



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Editor-in-Chief:
Annette Nelson-Wright

Production Manager:
Aaron Spitzer

Advertising Manager:
Lola Foss

Photo Editor:
Wayne Saucier

On-Line Editor:
Mark Luchini

Staff Reporters:
Paul Converse, Mark Luchini, Wayne Saucier, Aaron Spitzer

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Golden North Printers - Juneau



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Letters to the Editor

The Whalesong encourages readers to voice their opinion. Send comments via e-mail to JYWHALE or drop off at the Whalesong office located downstairs in the Mourant building.

Schorr correct on "unsalvageables"

I just read the editorial in the Feb. 14 Whalesong regarding the school board meeting remarks now so famous. As a parent who put three children through the Juneau school system, I have some experience with offered services as well as student behavior/commitment to learning, from my children as well as their peers.

It is clear that there are many special services and programs available to students at both ends of the educational and intellectual spectrum. It is also clear that unless a degree of willingness or cooperation exists on the part of a student in need of such services, nothing is going to put the knowledge, skills, or desire to learn into his/her head.

It is precisely those students *not* at either end of the spectrum who are being shortchanged. They get less attention, fewer resources, diminished recognition, etc., as focus is often directed at the exceptions. At some point it is time to say "Stop!" and review our priorities. There are finite dollars available, and as a taxpayer myself, I want to have my dollars spent wisely. To me, this means a realization such as was articulated by Mr. Schorr. I applaud his honesty and forthrightness to say what many may think. It may be unpopular to some, and unpleasant to others, but it is his right and, actually, his obligation, as an elected school board member, to raise issues of concern. He certainly does not need to apologize for doing his job, and exercising his constitutionally guaranteed freedom of speech.

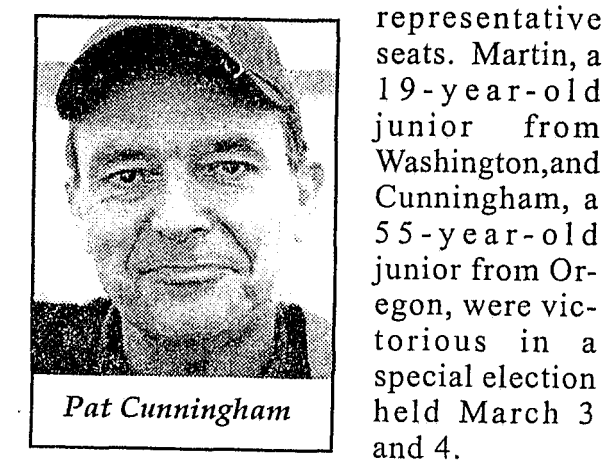
It is the student who ultimately makes the decision, or choice, to partake of the educational opportunities available. Nobody "gives up"—the classes are there, the counselors are there, the alternate programs are there. Sometimes, the reality of low-paying (or no) jobs can be the incentive for someone to engage in the learning process.

While as a society we are obligated to provide a basic education for our youth, as well as the opportunity to learn, we cannot force anyone to study, attend class, succeed, or graduate. So, rather than blame Mr. Schorr, or discount the personal attacks he had to endure, you might consider ways in which you, or the Whalesong, or UAS could serve as examples and models of the power and purpose of education, aiming it at those students who have become unsalvageable by virtue of their own lack of effort or involvement in the programs available for their education and/or training.

—Eileen Hoesey.

Faces in the news

UAS students Pat Cunningham and Sheila Martin have been elected to fill the two vacant student government representative seats.



Pat Cunningham



Sheila Martin

Both students were pleased and excited about their new roles as student representatives. "I was already very involved," said Martin. "Now I'll actually have a vote."

"I want to be able to represent people and what their concerns are," said Cunningham. "I'm looking forward to being involved in student government."

President Shawn Paul looks forward to having a full board again. "I'm really excited about the possibilities that new ideas and a fresh outlook will bring to student government," he said.

The two seats became vacant earlier this semester after Reps. Cathy Johnson and Chris Carrier resigned.

able to fill the position. "I'm heartened by the cooperation and support I've received from faculty members and the administration," he said.

One of his top priorities will be "to stimulate more participation in curricular and instructional support issues through open consensus building," he said.

The Faculty Council replaced the Faculty Senate during the administrative restructuring that was finalized at the beginning of this semester. The main purpose of the Council is to "represent the collective interest of the faculty in instructional and curricular support issues," said Oldaker.

UAS student Harold White has begun teaching a Rape Aggression Defense Systems course to interested students. The course is designed to "empower women through self-defense," based on the premise that women who are forceful about resisting a would-be rapist are less likely to be raped.



Harold White

The course is taught on the national level, and White, a first year transfer student at Tulane University.

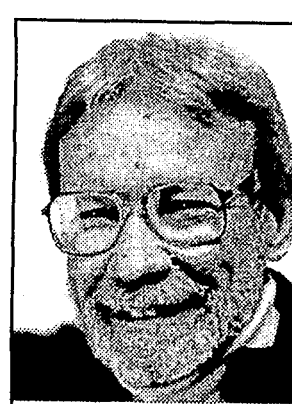
White said if enough students show an interest in the course, he would be willing to consider branching out to the Anchorage and Fairbanks campuses.

White stressed the importance of self-empowerment. He says the class aims to "teach women to rely on themselves, instead of Dad, or big brother, or the police department."

But the course can only be effective if women actually attend the classes, he said. "A lot of the people we can't get to come to class have had [sexual assault] experiences," he said. "It's hard to get the ones that we know really need it to come to class."

The course is taught on Saturday evenings at the Housing Lodge.

Lawrence Oldaker has assumed the position of Faculty Council Chair, after the position was vacated upon the retirement of Phil Slattery in February.



Lawrence Oldaker

Oldaker was pleased to be

Meal...

continued from page 1

until something clicks and we can operate in the black," he said.

The proposal is not the first one Griffin had come up with in attempting to deal with a \$20,000 plus shortfall this semester. Her original suggestion involved a mandatory \$800 meal plan purchase by all students living in university housing, including the apartment complexes.

This initial proposal was met with considerable opposition from students. Many students felt that because apartments are furnished with kitchens, residents should not be required to purchase a meal plan.

"Why should you have to buy a meal plan, if you have a kitchen?" asked student Julian Deiss. "I like cooking for myself."

Student Jeanna McGregor agreed that the plan wasn't very student-friendly. "It wasn't very economically smart for students," she said.

Students discussed their opposition to the plan at the March 3 Community Council Meeting. After hearing the students' reaction to her proposal, Griffin admitted her plan wasn't perfect. "I didn't make a very good proposal," she said.

"I was trolling," she said. "I was looking for a way to solve the problem." Griffin attended

the Community Council meeting for the very reason of listening to students' ideas concerning the food service budget shortfall. "I really believe in student input in setting policies and prices," she said.

Concerns raised at the meeting include the quality of the food served, the lack of enforcement of meal plan rules, the problem of running out of food before closing, and the cafeteria's limited hours.

Griffin admitted that food quality may be a problem, and said that the debit card system will address it. "It gives us an incentive to try and get your dollar, and it will address many concerns in regard to the appeal of the food," she said.

The new system will also give food service administrators more flexibility, said Griffin. "Once you go to a la carte, you know your costs and you can retail it out."

Gifford, meanwhile, was a little more hesitant about the plan. "My main concern is, what happens if somebody runs out of money [before the end of the semester]?" he said.

He did admit, however, that the proposal "does have some interesting possibilities. The advantage is that it gives students more flexibility."

Gifford expects to make a decision sometime this week.

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What floats their boat: marine tech program buoys shipwrights' dreams

By Wayne Saucier
Whalesong Reporter

The intermittent whine of a skill saw drowns out hammering, sanding, and drilling noises, as Teena Evert frowns, her face set in deep concentration as she traces the outline of her Shipmite sailboat.

"It will float right now," she says, "but I have a lot more work to do. I still have to put the sail and the mast on it."

Evert is one of several UAS students working in the marine technology center's marine carpentry shop. The students are part of the Small Boatbuilding II course offered through the university's marine technology department.

UAS offers an associate of applied science degree in marine technology, and students can specialize in marine construction and repair, marine metals, marine power, or marine operation. A marine carpentry certificate, which involves the same marine tech courses but omits the general education requirements, can also be obtained, and takes only a single year.

Students in the small boatbuilding course construct boats out of fiberglass, wood, and aluminum. Fiberglass boatbuilding involves making a mold, pouring in liquid resin and letting it solidify, and then gluing the pieces together. Wooden boatbuilding involves designing an internal rib structure, covering it with plywood, and applying finish. In aluminum boat construction, a steel jig is used to size and shape the sides of the boat, which are then tacked together.

Eric Leegard, the course instructor, said enrollment in the marine tech courses is usually pretty steady. "We have 13 now, and we usually run with over 10."

Student Katy McKerney, who's currently working on putting the finishing touches on her stitch-and-sew kayak, is excited about what the program has to offer. "It provides people locally with a place to work and instruction from professionals on how to build boats," she says. "It's a great service to the local people."

Evert is also more than happy to take advantage of the various marine technology offerings. "I think it's a great opportunity," she says. "An opportunity to learn how to build a boat, to have storage space, and to have all the supplies right there."



Photo by Wayne Saucier

Teena Evert marks the hull of her Shipmite sailboat prior to making a cut.



Photo by Wayne Saucier

While planing a sailboat mast, Andre Beaulieu (left) inadvertently showers kayak-builder David Burke with sawdust.



Photo by Paul Converse

Rick Walicki fits a piece of decking over the bow of his skiff.

"I think [the marine tech program] is a great opportunity—an opportunity to learn how to build a boat, to have storage space, and to have all the supplies right there."

—Teena Evert



Photo by Wayne Saucier

Mick Beasley concentrates on modifying the cabin of his wooden fishing dory.



Photo by Wayne Saucier

David Burke (top) and Ernie Greek use a skill saw to bisect Greek's Take-a-Part dinghy.

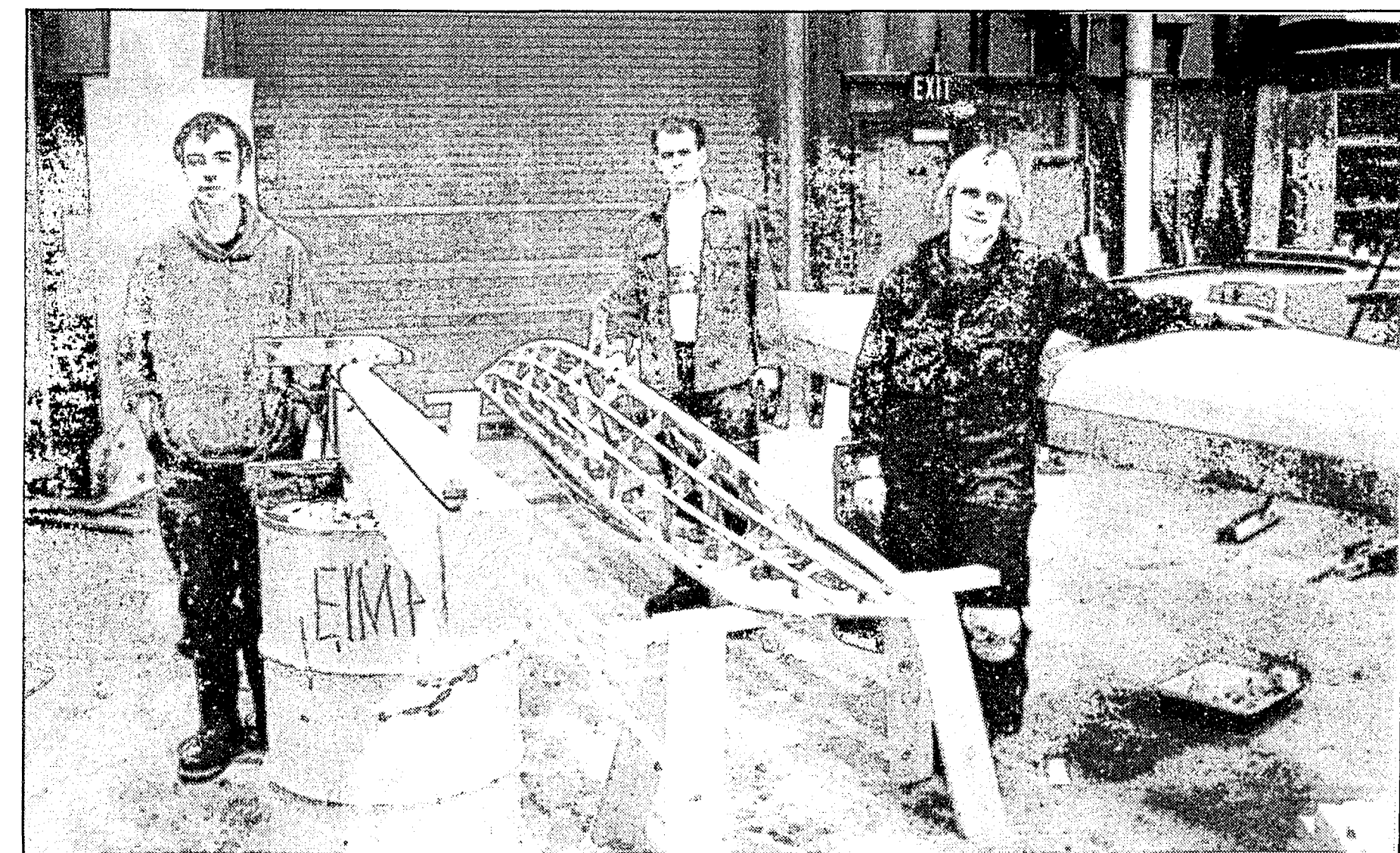


Photo by Wayne Saucier

Marine tech students (from L to R) Andre Beaulieu, David Burke, and Katy McKerney pose beside their class projects.

Another look at UAS' Scott Foster

Information officer's mild-mannered personality masks adventurous spirit

By Wayne Saucier
Whalesong Reporter

Most public information officers' resumes don't include covering a remote dogsled race by helicopter for a local TV station.

Or jumping out of an airplane to research a story on parachuting.

Or reaching the summit of Mt. McKinley.

But UAS' Scott Foster is no ordinary public information officer.

To see him sitting in his office typing on his computer, or out running around on campus taking photographs, is a little like seeing Larry Bird wash dishes. There is a rich story hiding behind this mild-mannered, quiet, unassuming personality. A story of fate-tempting determination, a story of a man chasing one adventure after another, a story of accomplishments of unparalleled proportions.

"I've done a lot of outdoor things my whole life," says Foster. "I like adventures that are a little bit out of routine."

His adventurous destiny seems to have been determined early in life. His family traveled extensively, venturing from Stoughton, Wisconsin, where Foster was born, east to Indiana, Virginia, and New York, as his father pursued education and employment goals. The family finally settled out west, in Oregon, where Foster attended high school and college.

Foster recalls his family as "the perfect Ozzie and Harriet." His dad worked, his mom stayed at home, and he and his brothers went to school. "We weren't rich, but we had everything we needed," he says. He engaged in the normal father/son boating, fishing and hunting excursions. In high school he was involved in the routine All-American suburbanite sports. Cross-country running. Basketball. Tennis.

It wasn't until his years at Oregon State University that Foster began to acquire a taste for adventure. Like an interest in mountain climbing. An interest which eventually culminated in his ascent of Mt. McKinley in 1967.

While working in Colorado, Foster heard from a friend that somebody was trying to put together an expedition team to summit McKinley. He admits his decision to join them was a little impulsive. "But I knew it was within my capabilities, so I just did it," he says.

The group was ready for a challenge and had decided to climb the north side of the mountain, beginning at Wonder Lake. The climb from this approach is a much more difficult climb, as there is a long overland approach, and the ascent begins at a much lower altitude. "It was a different way to go," he says, "a little more challenging."

The hike certainly proved to be a challenge, says Foster. Because of the gear and provisions required of a 30-day climb, the group had to ferry supplies back and forth several times between their six campsites. The climbers had to travel a large part of the trail three times.

"The first part of the climb was just terrible," he says. "It was hot, there were lots of mosquitoes, the walking was hard, and we were carrying phenomenally heavy packs."

But upon reaching the glacier, he says, the climb up Karston's Ridge was no easier. The group spent five days shoveling loose snow off the ridge, to form a hard-packed trail on which they could walk without fear of sliding off the side of the ridge in an avalanche.

"It was terrifying," he says of the avalanche danger. "There were avalanches going on all the time. We could hear them."



UAS Public Information Officer Scott Foster has climbed Mt. McKinley, jumped out of an airplane and covered dogsled races from a helicopter.

Photo by Wayne Saucier

The fear of avalanches followed them all the way up the mountain, and was intensified shortly after leaving their highest camp. The group had to climb up a steep snow slope to access a ridge which would lead them on toward the summit. "We had just gotten off the slope a minute or so, and the whole thing avalanched," Foster recalls. "We were just lucky enough to miss it."

Their fears finally faded into "a wonderful feeling of euphoria," upon reaching the summit, however. His first thought, Foster admits, was not one of transcendental accomplishments or supernatural revelations. He simply realized, "I didn't have to go up anymore. After 30 days, we could start to go back down."

After spending 30 minutes on the highest point on the North American continent, the group's thoughts drifted homeward. "We were more than willing to go back and enjoy the comforts of home," says Foster. "I really wanted a hamburger, a beer, and a bag of potato chips."

A trek up Mt. McKinley wasn't the only chance of a lifetime that Foster ever jumped at. While working for the Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph in 1966, for example, he jumped out of an airplane.

Twice. A local parachuting club had offered the paper's editor free lessons if he agreed to publish a story about them. When the editor offered the story and the lessons to Foster, he didn't hesitate.

"It was a great opportunity for adventure that just dropped into my lap," he says.

didn't want to be chicken," he says, "but I thought I was going to die."

His fears subsided, however, upon the successful opening of his parachute. "It was quiet," he describes. "You couldn't tell you were moving. That's what I wanted to experience, to be up there flying like a bird."

Although parachuting was a little out of routine even for Foster, a subsequent career in television news reporting allowed him to continue to appease his thirst for adventure as a journalist. During his seven years at KENI in Anchorage as news director, his work allowed him to travel to such places as the North Slope, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Colorado, and even Tokyo, Japan.

One of his most memorable assignments was his annual coverage of the Anchorage Fur Rendezvous Dog Sled Race in the early 1970's. Because the race course covered terrain inaccessible by vehicle, Foster followed the lead dog for all three days of the race by helicopter.

"It was really exciting," he recalls. "Stuff was happening out there that nobody would ever see."

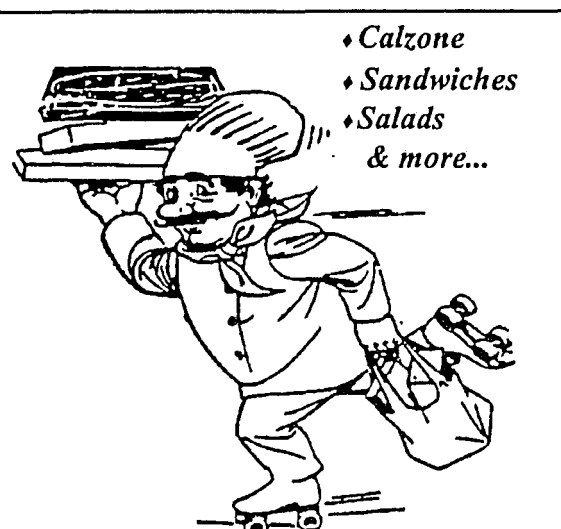
And during his 10 years working on "Rain Country," Foster attempted to show Southeast Alaskans just that. Stuff that nobody, or very few people, would ever see. From 1985 to 1995, as the producer/host of the local TV show that aired on KTOO, Foster brought adventure to the homes of thousands of Southeast Alaskans. Like scientists conducting research through the Juneau Icefield Research Program. Like the Buckwheat Classic ski race in the mountains of Skagway. Like the inside of the A-J mine. Like remote kayakers in the waters of Southeast Alaska.

"Working in TV was a lot of fun," he says. "As a journalist, you have access to all the neat stuff going on in your area. You get to do lots of stuff that most people don't get to do."

Foster has certainly done a lot of "stuff" that most people don't get to do. In retrospect, he doesn't admit to any regrets or disappointments in life. "You can always wonder, 'what would have happened if...?'" he says. "But I'm not dissatisfied with life."

"I've taken great pleasure in doing things that a lot of people won't do or can't. Any reasonably fit person can do what I've done, but most just don't get around to doing it for one reason or another."

One reason or another which evidently escaped Scott Foster.



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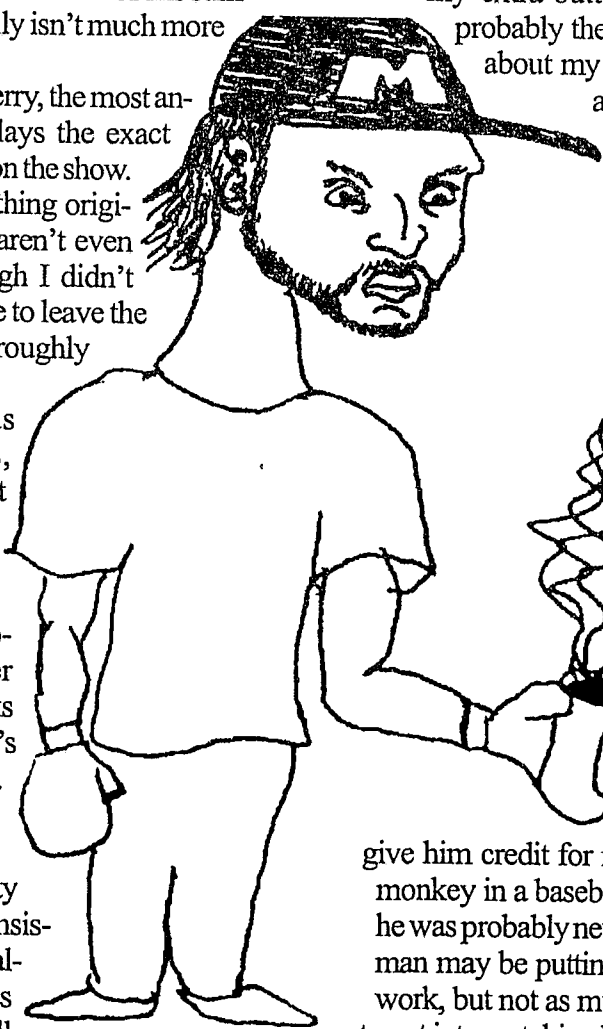
Movie reviews with Chris Benson & Ryan Barber

Our conflictory critics duke it out over the latest Juneau flicks

Fools Rush In is a cross-cultural love story starring Matthew Perry and Salma Hayek. The story starts with a one-night-stand and the rest is pretty easy to guess. We try to keep bitter opinions out of this summary part, but there really isn't much more to say.

CHRIS: Matthew Perry, the most annoying Friends star, plays the exact same character he does on the show. The plot consists of nothing original (most of the jokes aren't even funny), and even though I didn't have an unbearable urge to leave the theater, I was pretty thoroughly unimpressed.

RYAN: As bad as Matthew Perry was, Salma Hayek almost saved this movie...almost. She looked great, she acted as well as anyone in a romantic "comedy" ever does, and, uh, she looks really nice. I mean, she's one attractive woman... Speaking of how people look, at least Matthew Perry isn't another pretty boy. If he weren't so consistently annoying I could almost cheer for his success as a moral victory for all the "normal" looking guys in the world. Of course if I was to do that and still worship the ground that Ms. Hayek walks on that would be a terrible double-standard—or at least it would be if she didn't look so good.



CHRIS: She was attractive, and Ryan strikes a true chord with his comment on Perry's persona. I do think that Ryan's infatuation with Hayek is a bit much. She did an OK job, and, besides my extra-battered popcorn, she was probably the only thing that brought about my aforementioned lack of an urge to leave.

RYAN: My infatuation is a bit much? Chris doth little protest and yet he doth protest too much. But anyway, despite the best efforts of my dear sweet Salma, the movie is a flop, and we can only hope that it helps to put the kibosh on Matthew Perry's career. I do have to give him credit for not starting with a fake monkey in a baseball movie, but of course he was probably never offered the part. The man may be putting a lot of effort into his work, but not as much as the audience has to put into watching him. As for my feelings on whether this movie is worth seeing, if you don't know by now, you'd better ask somebody.

CHRIS: We're both thinking we've been a little too hard on the poor bastard, but I doubt if Perry will ever read this anyway. Basically, don't waste your time, and that's about all I have to say about that.

RYAN: From the description we just gave, a person might be led to believe that this is really an exciting and action-packed film. It isn't, at least after the first 15

minutes. The movie drags on at a snail's pace, making me wish I had just skipped it and waited for Return of the Jedi.

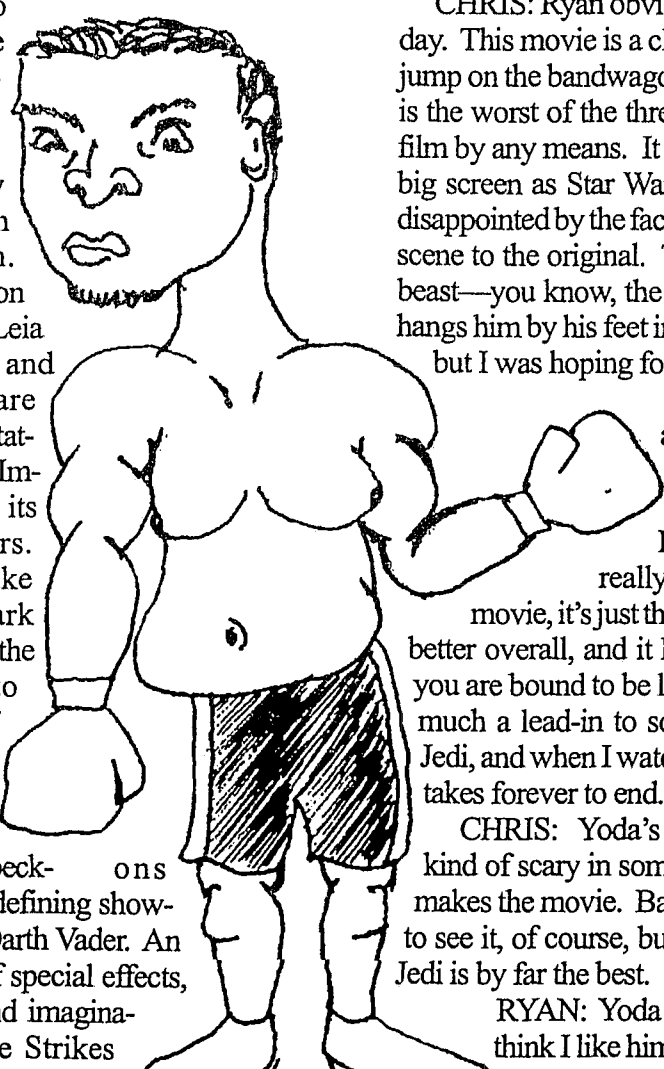
CHRIS: Ryan obviously took stupid pills today. This movie is a classic. I'm not one to just jump on the bandwagon, and I do think that this is the worst of the three, but it is still not a bad film by any means. It looks just as good on the big screen as Star Wars did, but I was kind of disappointed by the fact that they only added one scene to the original. The scene is of the snow beast—you know, the one that clubs Luke and hangs him by his feet in the ice. It is pretty cool, but I was hoping for a little more.

RYAN: I think we were all hoping for a little more, but sadly, for the first time ever, George Lucas lets us down. It isn't really that this is such a bad movie, it's just that Star Wars was so much better overall, and it had more added to it, so you are bound to be let down. Empire is very much a lead-in to some of the best parts of Jedi, and when I watch Empire it seems like it takes forever to end.

CHRIS: Yoda's as good as ever. He is kind of scary in some parts, but pretty much makes the movie. Basically, I'd say you have to see it, of course, but I agree with Ryan that Jedi is by far the best.

RYAN: Yoda is really good; I actually think I like him more now than I did as a child. The rest of the movie though I just don't know. As for the stupid pills comment, I don't have a witty retort but we'll see what Chris has to say after I beat the hell out of him.

RYAN: I think we were all hoping for a little more, but sadly, for the first time ever, George Lucas lets us down. It isn't really that this is such a bad movie, it's just that Star Wars was so much better overall, and it had more added to it, so you are bound to be let down. Empire is very much a lead-in to some of the best parts of Jedi, and when I watch Empire it seems like it takes forever to end.



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L to R: Gaye Adegbalola, Andra Faye McIntosh and Ann Rabson of Saffire, The Uppity Blues Women perform at Centennial Hall. Nearly 550 people saw the concert put on by USUAS Productions.

Hungry? Consider The Broiler

Service and variety make The Broiler an appealing option

By Lola Foss
Whalesong Reviewer

After spending a month as a deck hand on a fish processor, I came to enjoy the atmosphere of the ship's galley. There's nothing like the nautical charm of eating a sensuous meal out on the open seas. That's the feeling created by the atmosphere at The Broiler Steak and Seafood Restaurant in the Nugget Mall. With the open style kitchen, glass floats, buoys, wooden sailors, miniature fishing vessels and tables covered with the type of maps one would find in a captain's pilot house, it's no wonder eating here evokes memories of those days out on the waters of Southeast Alaska.

Step inside during peak hours and you'll be greeted by the friendly waitresses rushing around the dining area with trays of food. If you came expecting the level of service offered in fine diners with swift, attentive servers to seat you and take your order, then you may be disappointed. The service here is a hybrid of a fast food diner and a service oriented restaurant. Like a fast food diner, the order is taken and paid for at the counter and like a restaurant your order will be brought to you by a waitress. I find this style of service very comfortable and preferable to the class of service offered in fine diners. It makes for a very pleasant dining experience.

If you're in the mood for seafood, The Broiler offers a selection which includes everything from freshly broiled Southeast Alaska halibut (\$9.99) to a trio shrimp platter (\$11.99) consisting of jumbo shrimp,

regular shrimp and Cajun shrimp. All seafood platters come with cole slaw and a choice of a large baked potato, rice or french fries. The all you can eat salad bar is available for \$1.99 with your entree. My favorite menu item is the clam chowder (\$2.19/cup or \$3.19/bowl) which is almost as good as my Mom's recipe. If you like thick, creamy clam chowder...the kind you just can't get enough of, then you've come to the right place. Another tempting dish is halibut and chips offered on Friday's for \$7.99. All servings are generous portions of hot and delicious food.

The Broiler's chefs culinary talents are not limited to the seafood menu. The menu includes items like the fettuccini alfredo (\$7.99), broiled chicken (\$8.99), and my all time favorite 16-oz. porterhouse steak (\$15.99). All steak entrees are served with the all-you-can-eat salad bar and your choice of a baked potato, rice or french fries.

During this lunch hour, I chose the broiled chicken and french fries. I'm very particular over how I like my chicken cooked. It has to be moist, tender and seasoned to perfection. I cut into the chicken, which was a boneless steak size with grill marks, and the knife sliced through the tender, juicy meat with ease. The chicken was hot and seasoned just right. The meal was both filling and satisfying. I was happy with the generous portion I received for only \$8.99. Then, while I was enjoying my meal a waitress stopped by with my raspberry mocha and asked if there was anything else I needed but I was content. Later, I was greeted by one of the chef's who hap-

pens to be the manager, Doug. He was cheerful and offered me some ketchup for my fries before he moved on to serve other patrons. The friendly atmosphere and delicious meal left me feeling very refreshed and energized.

If you are an old sea dog and even if you aren't, you will appreciate the novelty and charm of the galley styled Broiler Steak and Seafood restaurant. You will find the menu prices and atmosphere supports the restaurant's claim of "affordable family dining."

Rating: ★★★★★

The Broiler Steak and Seafood, located in the Nugget Mall, 789-3555. Open till midnight, seven days a week. Prices: Appetizers \$3.99-\$5.99; Side Dishes \$.99-\$3.19; Entrees \$5.99-\$13.99. Espresso, beer and wine. Major credit cards accepted. No obstacles to access.

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